

# VISION

Spring/Summer 2019

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## Dictionary DEFINITION of Mission

Why would a  
cross-cultural  
worker make  
a dictionary?

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empowering communities to develop their  
own distinctive ways of following Jesus



GLOBAL  
INTERACTION

# Letter from Bruce



Dear Friends,

As happens so often in Vision magazine, this edition anticipates future possibilities for ministry as well as reflects on and gives thanks for the past.

From the Yawo Dictionary project (Malawi and Mozambique) and the Kyaka Enga Bible revision (Papua New Guinea) to the exploration of how Creation Care impacts our theology of mission, future possibilities are emerging! In this edition, we also celebrate and give thanks for the faithfulness of those who have served long and well, as Jane and Lindsay have done for over 30 years in Hong Kong.

We learn so much from those who have come before us. This came home to me again recently when two of our former cross-cultural workers turned one hundred years of age. Yes, two of them!

Nola Hodgson went to East Bengal (now Bangladesh) in 1945 and served there until 1952 when she married Ralph. Nola celebrated her one hundredth birthday in August. She can still greet you in the language she learnt all those years ago and continues to pray for the people of that land.

Betty Shinkfield also served in East Bengal, arriving in 1950. Together with husband Des, Betty continued to serve with Global Interaction until 1957. Betty also celebrated her one hundredth birthday in August. Betty continues her commitment to mission by sending medical supplies to remote places where supplies are difficult to obtain.

Following Jesus and responding to the call to serve wherever He directs us... We praise God that so many have done so in the past and pray that others will do so now. Is God calling you? Why not respond today?

Grace and Peace,

**Bruce Tudball**

Interim General Director

## THANK YOU!

We give thanks to all who have participated in May Mission Month 2019. *GROW where you're planted, SOW where He calls* shared testimony to what God's people can do when we come together in His name to build His Kingdom among least-reached people groups.

Amount raised this May Mission Month: \$632,681!





# Around the States

Ready to connect? Cross-cultural workers and candidates each bring a unique perspective to global mission. What's your perspective? We'd love to meet with you and talk about mission.

**Contact your State Office team for more information on events or to connect with a worker.**

WA

## Who's Around

- **Ben and Sam** – Home Assignment from Mozambique
- **Cam and Kath** – Home Assignment from Mozambique
- **Sarah and Gunther** – Preparing to serve in Malawi

## Events

### **Friends of Global Interaction**

Gather for stories, updates and fellowship. Saturday 2 November, 10am | Shelley

QLD

## Who's Around

- **Ben and Petra** – Home Assignment from the Silk Road Area (based in Townsville)
- **Mike** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Morris** (based in QLD) – South Asia
- **R and B** – Preparing to return to Central Asia
- **Scott and Janelle** – Home Assignment from Cambodia, concluding service in December

## Events

### **Thanksgiving Brunch**

Connect with Scott and Janelle over brunch. Saturday 26 October, 9am | Reedy Creek

### **General Resonate**

Hear stories from Scott and Janelle, Ben and Petra. Saturday 16 November, 10am | Nundah

NSW & ACT

## Who's Around

- **Ally** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Dave and Caz** – Home Assignment from South East Asia
- **Gary and Shirley** – Preparing to serve in Malawi
- **Jit and Jan** – Home Assignment from Thailand
- **Margaret** – Preparing to serve in Thailand
- **Mark and Ngoc** – Preparing to serve in Vietnam
- **Mel** – Preparing to serve in the Silk Road Area
- **R and B** – Preparing to return to Central Asia

VIC & TAS

## Who's Around

- **Adam and Natalie** – Preparing to serve in Malawi
- **Ando** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Andy and Cathie** – Preparing to serve in Cambodia
- **Ian** (based in VIC) – Malawi
- **Jit and Jan** – Home Assignment from Thailand (TAS)
- **Kate** – Preparing to serve in South East Asia
- **Phil** – Home Assignment from South Asia
- **R and B** – Preparing to return to Central Asia

## Events

### **Regional Global Interaction Dinner**

Wednesday 12 February 2020, 7pm | Gippsland region (venue TBC)

SA & NT

## Who's Around

- **David and Susie** – Preparing to serve in Malawi
- **Rob and Deb** – Home Assignment from Cambodia

## Events

### **Unearthed**

Meet with other young adults to share a meal and explore mission. Wednesday 23 October, 7pm | West Beach

### **Global Inspire**

Enjoy breakfast with people from across the state to launch Global Interaction SA/NT for 2020.

Saturday 29 February 2020, 9am | Venue TBC

**Just Prayer: 8–10 November**

[www.globalinteraction.org.au/JustPrayer](http://www.globalinteraction.org.au/JustPrayer)

# Why Would a Cross-Cultural Worker Make a Dictionary?



Ian Dicks shares about the major project he is leading in Malawi and answers some frequently asked questions.

**F**or the last 12 years I have been involved in a project to construct a bilingual dictionary in English and Ciyawo, the heart language of the Yawo people. For most of these years I lived in Malawi with my family, however, for the last four years I have travelled back and forth from Melbourne to see the project to completion. When I mention to people that I am continuing to travel back to Malawi, as well as what I am doing there, it can elicit a number of different responses. First, **shock** that the Yawo don't have a dictionary like that already! Second, **amazement** thinking that I am doing the work on my own.

Third, **wonder** at why a cross-cultural worker for a mission organisation would be involved in this sort of activity. In case you find yourself wondering the same things, let me share how I answer each of these questions.

Yes, it is shocking to think that there are children and communities in the world today that don't have access to necessary educational materials. The Yawo who number more than three million people and live in Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania are one of the least educated groups in the region. One of the reasons for their low level of education in Malawi is

because they are disadvantaged when first entering school. The vast majority of Yawo children do not speak, read or write either of the two languages in which education is taught - Chichewa and English. This means Yawo children must learn these languages before they can progress in their schooling. The English-Ciyawo learner's dictionary has the most important and frequently used words in English and will help Yawo students overcome this obstacle. It will help bridge the gap for Yawo children, empowering the next generation through education and greater future opportunities.

Second, yes it would be amazing if I had the ability to construct a bilingual dictionary on my own, but it would also be dangerous, and the finished result would not be representative of the Yawo.



*Above: Ian and the Malawian Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Bright Msaka, at the official launch of the English-Ciyawo dictionary. Right: The published dictionary. Above Right: A gathering of Yawo chiefs to review the dictionary.*



We celebrate that this long-term project is nearing completion.  
To learn more, visit: [www.globalinteraction.org.au/Projects/Dictionary](http://www.globalinteraction.org.au/Projects/Dictionary)

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**The Yawo have many proverbs and stories that express the need for working with others on important tasks. One of their proverbs is, ‘Alone, alone, one does not make history’, which means that to achieve anything significant people must work together.** We have followed Yawo wisdom when making the English-Ciyawo dictionary. This dictionary is the result of a dedicated team of eight Yawo lexicographers who have worked together to achieve our goal. Others in the Yawo community, including students, teachers and senior Yawo chiefs, have also reviewed the dictionary and provided us with valuable feedback and encouragement. Their endorsement then enabled the Malawian Minister of Education, Science and Technology to officially launch the dictionary, allowing it to become a public document.

Third, you might wonder why Global Interaction and cross-cultural workers like Wendy and I would spend so much time undertaking a project like this. We believe that God is interested in every aspect of the Yawo’s life. Jesus, when He talked about His ministry on earth, talked about it in holistic terms. We read in

Luke 4:18-19 that Jesus saw His ministry to people in **word, sign and deed** and through Jesus, God is reconciling, renewing and transforming all things to himself. At Global Interaction, we believe that God calls us to join Him in His mission to the world and that we should also work holistically in the same manner as Jesus.

**Obviously, a dictionary on its own is not enough to reconcile, renew or even transform the Yawo. In fact, fully meeting the education, health and economic needs of the Yawo would still not be enough for them to experience true shalom.** For this to take place the Yawo also need to encounter Jesus who is reconciling, transforming and renewing all things. For such encounters to take place it usually requires people who can communicate with the Yawo meaningfully in their own language, which is why we are constructing the second side of this dictionary. The Ciyawo into English side will help explain the most important and frequently used Ciyawo words to cross-cultural workers who are working with them.

**The first side of our dictionary, the English into Ciyawo side is complete, has been circulated, and is being used. We could not**

**have achieved this without the vital financial contributions, encouragement and prayers of Australian Baptists.** At the public launch of the dictionary, Global Interaction donated 500 copies on your behalf to the Malawian Ministry of Education. The Australian government donated a further 200 copies through the embassy in Zimbabwe. The second side of the dictionary, the Ciyawo into English side, is nearing completion. Through this effort cross-cultural workers will have access to a tool that will help them learn more of the Yawo language so that they are better able to understand and speak to the Yawo meaningfully.

Yawo wisdom tells us that we cannot complete this project alone, or even the larger work of seeing people reconciled and transformed. It requires all of us working together.

— Ian Dicks

*Ian continues to work part-time as a cross-cultural worker in Malawi with the Yawo and is a lecturer in Intercultural Studies at Whitley College, Melbourne.*



# Global Interaction

## Going Green

**M**edia constantly bombards us with the environmental crisis of climate change. There are scary predictions of the effects of sea-level rises, temperature changes and increased storm activity that cause concern in all regions of the world. We often hear debate about how much of the climate crisis is caused by human activity and the accuracy of predictions, however, these days few would argue that the phenomenon is real. **As people of faith, I would argue that even if human induced climate change is not real, the biblical mandate to care for creation is real. In Genesis 2:15, God gives humanity the responsibility to tend and care for His creation.**

In Australia, we have the ability to make personal choices and influence national decisions that have some bearing on climate

change. Over 10 years ago, as an Environmental Planner, I had access to sea-level rise data and storm surge predictions that enabled me, as a decision-maker, to know if coastal developments were appropriate. However, in many of the locations Global Interaction works across Asia and Africa, countries and regions are not prepared for the emerging effects of climate change. Some of our cross-cultural workers observe seasonal shifts causing problems in agriculture, and heat in urban areas is creating challenges for human health.

### So what does this mean for Global interaction?

For starters, we concur with the Lausanne Movement, a global movement that mobilises evangelical leaders to collaborate for world evangelisation.

They say:

- “If Jesus is Lord of all the earth, we cannot separate our relationship to Christ from how we act in relation to the earth. For to proclaim the gospel that says ‘Jesus is Lord’ is to proclaim the gospel that includes the earth, since Christ’s Lordship is over all Creation. Creation care is thus a gospel issue within the Lordship of Christ.”
- Lausanne Movement, Cape Town Commitment (2012)

Global Interaction has been at the forefront of implementing this commitment in South East Asia. Working in a Muslim context, where there is a similar creation story to our own recorded in Genesis, we are engaging with hundreds of thousands of people in our



environmental improvement projects. These projects include clean-up days, waste banks (exchanging recyclable waste for books and other daily needs etc.) tree planting, and education around green lifestyle and food through our Café project. **Crucially, participants are invited into a conversation about how our efforts to improve the environment are spiritual acts and that we are joining our Creator God in His plan to redeem His creation!**

So we are already working in the space, but Global Interaction has recently considered we could be doing more. Our Board, with the advice of our Missiological Advisory Committee, has recently added a statement to our Theology of Mission. In discussing what it means for our mission to be wholistic, the following paragraph has been included:

*“A concern with the whole creation involves care for the whole environment, both people and places. God’s act of creating is His first missionary act and God’s design for creation ensures the nurture and care of all that lives and breathes within it. Creation first nurtures and cares for us. Caring for God’s creation is therefore, in return, an expression of His kingdom and a practical demonstration of loving our neighbours. Programs that focus on environmental issues are a unique opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ to people and all living things that are inextricably bound up with the created physical environment.”*

For a full reading of our Theology of Mission, see our website at [www.globalinteraction.org.au/TheologyOfMission](http://www.globalinteraction.org.au/TheologyOfMission)

What does this mean for our work across Asia, Africa and Outback Australia?

Our teams now have the mandate and are encouraged to consider platforms that include creation care as a way of communicating the Gospel.

We have a fantastic model operating in South East Asia that we can adapt in other Muslim majority regions. More research will need to be done to consider how such programs could be adapted to connect with Hindu and Buddhist communities. We are committed to undertake this research and partner with others active in those communities in order to learn from them.

Global Interaction is also engaging innovative new thinking around organisational stewardship across national and state-based operations. In our local Australian setting, these developments are anticipated as new ways of honouring our Creator God more broadly, across all we do.

**If you are reading this article and feel that you have skills that might fit within a cross-cultural context, bringing together environmental sustainability and faith, please contact me at our National Office, or speak to your local State Director. We’d love to explore how you might partner with us in this new approach to see God’s kingdom come.**

— Andy  
Director of Mobilisation,  
Partnership and Development

Episode 3 of this year’s May Mission Month video resource, *GROW where you’re planted, SOW where He calls*, featured the Creation Care project in South East Asia. Please email [info@globalinteraction.org.au](mailto:info@globalinteraction.org.au) for the video link and password or for further information as to how your church, business or organisation might explore deeper alignment with creation care values.



# Around the Teams

A snapshot from our teams serving among least-reached people groups in Asia and Africa.

## H PEOPLE OF CENTRAL ASIA

**Pete and Nomes wait on the Lord and remain vigilant in seeking people of peace among their H friends with whom they might share the message of Jesus.** They were recently encouraged by the gesture of friendship they received by an H person when he invited them to a barbecue at his home. They felt privileged to be invited into their friend's world and upon leaving, they made plans to regularly gather together. They left with full hearts and stomachs.

Following nearly a year of being the only team members on the ground in Central Asia, Pete and Nomes are very excited to soon welcome R and B back into the team. R and B served with Global Interaction among the H people from 2003 – 2016 before R was appointed as a University College Principal in Mizoram, India. Their many years among the H people established a solid foundation for their ministry and we are delighted that God is calling them to return to this people group.

## K PEOPLE OF THE SILK ROAD AREA

**In June this year David, Eliza and their children Jude, Dustin and Caitlyn returned to the Silk Road Area after their first Home Assignment.** With their sights now firmly set on their next three years of ministry, David has embarked on an innovative project to partner with local farmers. God's provision of an appropriate workshop

## YAWO OF MALAWI AND MOZAMBIQUE

**A small film crew recently spent time with the team in Mangochi, Malawi to produce a short film for May Mission Month 2020.** In preparing for the trip, the production team had an idea of some of the local believer stories they could feature. However, it wasn't until they were sitting in a backyard listening to the Yawo believers share their own stories, that they really came to life.

Waindi shared that when Jesus told him he had to choose between following his own way or Jesus' way, he felt that Jesus was choosing him (and how could he not choose Jesus also?). The entrepreneurial, go-getter Twaibu spoke of being challenged to follow God's Word even when it meant making difficult life changes. And Mary, in her measured, full of quiet strength way, relayed that when her baby was badly burnt she thought she had no-one to turn to. Then she learnt she could trust God, the other believers and herself.

The short film is currently being edited. Pray with us for this production to inspire, faithfully represent these Yawo believers and grow a heart for the least-reached among viewers.

location has set the project in good stead. Aside from the opportunity to implement advances in agriculture, we are praying that the project will open doors for building authentic relationships and to see this team flourish in their vision to see K people meet Jesus and follow Him in their own distinctive ways.

Love these stories? New stories added weekly to [www.globalinteraction.org.au/News](http://www.globalinteraction.org.au/News)



## ETHNIC THAI OF THAILAND

**Team Retreats offer a timely opportunity for team members from across a ministry region to come together.** The Ethnic Thai team retreat was blessed by Pastor Allan from NewHope Baptist Church in Melbourne. Allan spoke to the theme 'Dreams, Grieving and Apologising', based on the life of Joseph. Together the team celebrated the baptism of Muana and Villy's eldest daughter Yindii, and prayed together for Luke and Belle as they prepare to branch out to a newly identified rural ministry location and community.

Having served their first three year term in Baan Luang, Luke and Belle with Salem and baby Judah, have followed God's leading to this new place. Knowing that God has gone before them, it is no surprise that the village headman is also a builder, and has offered to do the renovations needed to the home they will be renting. Whilst there are extensive repairs and work to be done, their Home Renovation Project seeks to raise just \$6,600. The project will ensure an appropriate abode for the family home that will soon become a place of welcome in this new location among the Ethnic Thai.

## B PEOPLE OF SOUTH ASIA

**When Morris recently spent time in South Asia, he had a conversation with a long-term local staff member of our partner NGO.** They spoke about faith and the B man explained that when he was a young Muslim man, he was told again and again that he must follow the strict religious laws otherwise he would face severe punishment in Hell. He spent many sleepless nights in fear for his future. He shared with Morris that when he accepted the Good News, the fear vanished. He felt peace and was no longer afraid of death in the way he had been.

Give thanks for this man's faith, and pray that many more B people will hear and understand the wonderful message of Jesus.

## B.I AND S.I PEOPLE OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

**On a visit to South East Asia in 2017 God revealed to Pat and Joy a vision that confirmed the calling on their hearts for ministry in this region.** The process from candidate to cross-cultural worker takes time and perseverance. Candidates fulfil requirements for both personal growth and professional development in preparation for long-term cross-cultural ministry. Now six months into their first term, they are beginning to realise a new phase of perseverance; learning culture and language... it will certainly take time.

Team Leader Dave, has welcomed Pat and Joy and looks forward to also welcoming candidates Mike (QLD), Ally (NSW), Kate (VIC) and Ando (VIC) who are currently preparing to join the team. The team's Education Foundation, Café and Creation Care projects are opening new opportunities to share Jesus and local people are choosing to follow Him.

## KHMER OF CAMBODIA

**Early this year Team Leader Luke shared that in realising his limitations, he is made humble, and in humility he is motivated!** Within the communities where Global Interaction's teams work, limitations are prevalent. There are limitations to health, education and social services, and limited financial security.

In the small village of Chreav on the outskirts of Siam Reap is a modest medical centre where team member Deb volunteers to support the local doctor and midwife. The centre attends to 550 regular clients and their families. With a professional background in healthcare, Deb does her best as a volunteer. She has, however, been motivated by the limitations of the staff and the facilities to champion the Chreav Health Centre Project. This project identifies some small and some more significant resources and changes that will improve the safety of the facility and those who work and attend there. Please be encouraged to turn your limitations into humble motivations for God's glory.



# Living Out

Andrew Palmer, NSW/ACT State Director, pays tribute to a ministry that has equipped a movement of followers of Jesus in Hong Kong.

It's altogether likely you have heard the phrase "preach the gospel always, use words when necessary..." This quote is almost universally attributed to Francis of Assisi, but actually there is no evidence Francis ever uttered these words or held to any theological position that downplayed the importance of the spoken Gospel witness.

**In all likelihood, the idea is an interpretation of a genuine Franciscan quote: "It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching." That is to say, what Francis was concerned about was that the actions of the Church matched their rhetoric. Today we would probably simply say, "Practice what we preach."**

In 1987 a young family applied to work with Global Interaction in Central Asia. Lindsay and Jane were professionals with a heart to live out their

*"It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching."*

— St Francis of Assisi

faith and serve cross-culturally. Their initial assignment of two years saw them teaching English in mainland East Asia, whilst raising two children. Through significant political upheaval that saw them briefly evacuated, they served two terms.

Following further study in England where Lindsay was awarded his PhD at Oxford University, the family in 1998 moved to Hong Kong and Lindsay took on a role at the Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary teaching New Testament, Theology and Christian Thought (among others!).

**Lindsay's research interests have direct and deep missional implications.**

His examination of the being and nature of God led him to consider the reality and meaning of beauty, and how this intersects with the Christian life in art and symbol. Consequently, this led two post graduate students to begin to explore the use of art and beauty in counselling practice around dealing with trauma. Lindsay has continued to work with them in research, workshop, and feedback methods to further enhance the study. This is an example of the Kingdom of God in practice.

Through Lindsay and Jane's work thousands have been trained to serve in Churches and ministries across Asia. The multiplication is extraordinary,





# The Gospel



and this is where our passions meet the sovereign purposes of God. **Prior to graduating, a student named Carmen shared how the example of sacrifice of Lindsay and Jane coming all the way to Hong Kong to teach them impacted her life, so much so, that she decided to pursue missionary work. Carmen has now been a cross-cultural worker in India for over ten hard years of highly effective ministry.**

Other students have gone out all over the world in pastoral and teaching positions. It is clear Lindsay and Jane's ministry has been wonderfully strategic. Crucially, it is person-centred.

For years Jane has met with women from across Hong Kong – many not-yet-followers of Jesus – to listen and care and provide support in what is one of the busiest (and sometimes most isolating) cities in the world. This pastoral work has colloquially become known as Jane's "Yum Cha Ministry". Meanwhile, Lindsay's gentle spirit and listening ear has pastored many young students as they shared their joys, dreams, sorrows, fears and hopes with a trusted mentor. And this is where this particular story swings back to where we began: Lindsay and Jane have for the better part of the last thirty years lived

out the maxim of St Francis: their *walking* has matched their *preaching*. In short, they have lived out the *whole* of the Gospel.

Many opportunities present themselves for engagement within the communities we work in today – and teaching English is one ongoing relevant mode. Done well, it opens up the world, grows skills and capacity to navigate a globalised economy, and provides a natural context for sharing the life transforming story of Jesus, as we also commit to learning the heart culture and language of those among whom we work daily. **I am sure that God is raising up women, men and families who, like Lindsay and Jane 31 years ago, sense God's calling to use their professional expertise for the glory of His name and the expansion of His Kingdom!**

.....

Following more than 30 years of ministry, Lindsay and Jane will conclude as cross-cultural workers in late 2020.



Above: Lindsay and Jane with their children David and Rachel, 2017.

Above left: Lindsay and Jane, 1988. Left: Lindsay with a class at the Seminary, 2012.

# Daring to Believe

**Around this time last year I read *Daring to Believe* by the late Norm and Sheila Draper, just one of several books written by Global Interaction cross-cultural workers documenting the pioneering spirit of Kingdom building ministry in Papua New Guinea (PNG).**

Seton Arndell, who wrote the foreword to the book notes, *"The editors have performed a great service to the people of New Guinea and their friends in the wider world by recording these stories..."* Those words stuck with me as the book progressed. I too felt a great sense of gratitude that those compelling stories had been documented for generations to come, perhaps as a reminder that as we dare to believe, God can move mountains through the faith of His people.

At the time of my reading, Global Interaction was promoting an appeal to raise funds for the

publication of the revised translation of the Kyaka Enga Bible. The article 'Hearing and Reading the Word of God' (Vision, Winter 2018) received a generous and heartfelt response and soon after the project was on target and print production was in full swing! Hot off the press, the Bibles sailed across seas and journeyed over mountains headed for the Western Highlands of PNG. Against the odds, that precious cargo arrived right on time and the dedication of the Kyaka Enga Bible was a highlight during events that celebrated a history spanning 70 years of Australian Baptist witness.

Along with thousands of Kyaka Enga people, 24 people from Australia, mostly former workers, joined together to give thanks to God and to honour the legacy

of the first Baptist cross-cultural workers who ventured into the Western Highlands in 1949.

**The significant contribution of Australian Baptists since then, continues this legacy of work today. The early Australian Baptist cross-cultural workers touched the lives of many individuals in the name of Jesus; together these individuals touched the lives of families, communities and eventually we have witnessed a movement of empowered followers of Jesus. Seventy years later and we celebrate that the Kyaka Enga people have the Word of God in their hearts and the Good News in their hands!**

So, in the spirit of Seton Arndell's words, I hope you will enjoy reading this brief compilation of excerpts as recorded in the Global Interaction archives and with these, excerpts of stories written by a few of those who attended the 70 year Celebrations. I hope you too, will dare to believe!

— Andrea Fleming  
Partner Engagement and  
Communications Manager





## FROM THE ARCHIVES...

**From the book *Building for God in Papua New Guinea* by Arthur and Jean Kelshaw, Arthur writes...** *After World War II, chaplains and other Baptists returned home from military service in that country. They brought reports of untouched tribes who had never heard of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Various denominations had worked on the coast for many years but the wild mountainous Highlands were practically untouched. This was the challenge for Australian Baptists.*

Arthur and Jean Kelshaw served in PNG from 1951-1953 and 1955-1959.

**September 1951 as recorded in Vision magazine...** *Mark Telefomin on your map. Watch for news concerning this missionary outpost. It may well prove to be one of the important landmarks in the history of the Australian Baptist New Guinea Mission.*

**From his book *Fire in their Bones* Tony Cupit writes...** *Alan Prior, Arthur Kelshaw and others have described in vivid detail the momentous events that heralded the birth of the Church among the Enga people of PNG. Obviously those first baptismal services at Baiyer River in June 1956 and at Lumusa the following month were a powerful testimony to the commitment of the early missionaries, the responsiveness of the Enga people and to the power of the Gospel.*

Tony was a missionary linguist in PNG and with his wife Margaret served in PNG from 1965-1971.



## REFLECTING ON CELEBRATIONS IN PNG JUNE 2019

**Sally Burton writes...** *The Bibles were shipped to Lae but then a series of obstacles seemed likely to threaten their arrival in time for the celebrations; wharfage issues, a truck breakdown, punctured tyres on the Highway and rain. However, we were holding on in faith that what we hoped for would actually happen. And it did... the large transport that had brought the Bibles from Lae rolled into Kumbareta – yes, just 24 hours before the planned dedication! And so for a new day as the people move into the next 70 years anticipating what God has for them, they have His Word in their ‘heart language.’ One Enga described it in this way, “God speaks loudest in our language.”*

Sally Burton served in PNG from 1967-1984 and was a key leader of the Bible Revision project.

*Above: Sue Tidy, cross-cultural worker from 1973-1986, with adult literacy teachers.*

*Top left: Ken Osborne, cross-cultural worker from 1955-1972, with Enga leaders.*

*Above left: Meryl Smith, cross-cultural worker from 1965-1983, at the 70th anniversary celebrations.*

*Left: Maz Lord, cross-cultural worker from 1970-1976, with Lulusi.*

**Geoff Cramb writes...** *A large number at the 70th Anniversary of the coming of Australian Baptists to the Baiyer Valley in the Western Highlands of Papua New Guinea expressed deep appreciation that we were there celebrating with them – a crowd of over 2,000. “We are the fruit of what you have done.” They highlight their experience of freedom from the fear of failing to appease evil spirits. Now purpose, meaning and joy was obvious... All were joyful, some wailing, all expressing a mutual blessing of God...*

Geoff Cramb served in PNG from 1977-1981, and as the Global Interaction PNG consultant from 2007-2018.

**Global Interaction has limited copies of the above mentioned books, each with an inspiring insight into a movement that has touched a nation, please be encouraged to purchase one today.**

To order, please email [info@globalinteraction.org.au](mailto:info@globalinteraction.org.au).

All books are \$25 inclusive of postage to anywhere in Australia.

# In the Family

## NEW CANDIDATES

We are excited to introduce our recently accepted candidates who are preparing for cross-cultural work. To hear more of their story, invite them to share at your church or small group.



**Ngoc**, NSW

Ngoc recently joined Mark as a candidate preparing to serve in Vietnam. Ngoc is also of Vietnamese heritage, though she grew up in Houston, Texas. Following their wedding, Ngoc will join Mark in Sydney where they will continue preparation and training together.



**Kate**, VIC

Kate is preparing to join the team in South East Asia. She is a teacher who has previously lived in South East Asia. Kate participated in Global Interaction's Strategic Mission Week course at the beginning of 2019 where she was prompted to more intentionally discern God's leading.



**Gunther and Sarah Hoppe**, WA

Along with their two children, Gunther and Sarah are preparing to serve among the Yawo. From 2004 – 2006 they worked for a commercial employer in Blantyre, Malawi. Since that time they have felt God calling them back to Malawi to share Jesus.



**Mel**, NSW

Mel grew up in Sydney and responded to God's call to follow Jesus as a teenager at her local church youth group. Mel started on a discernment journey at the end of 2015, being involved in the Global Interaction i68 program, and is now preparing to serve long-term among the K people of the Silk Road.

## NEW STAFF



**Paulo Pereira**, Finance Assistant, National Office



**Eryl**, Finance and Administration Officer, National Office



**Graham Keen**, Finance Officer (Special Projects), National Office



**Natalisa Sembiring**, Payroll/Accounts, National Office



## RETURNING STAFF

### R and B, VIC/Mizoram

R and B served with the Global Interaction team in Central Asia from 2003–2016 and we praise God that they are preparing to join the team once again! R and B are seconded to serve with Global Interaction from the Baptist Churches of Mizoram, India.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Pip Miner, our NSW/ACT Partnership Development Consultant, who welcomed a baby girl, Sophia Eden Dern, into the world on Friday 13 September. We celebrate this precious blessing with Pip, Sopern and big brother, Levi.

## COMPLETION OF SERVICE

### Andy Staunton

Andy has now concluded in the role of VIC/TAS Partnership Development Consultant so that he, Cathie and their children can focus on preparing to serve with Global Interaction in Cambodia. Andy served in the role of PDC for more than three years and passionately journeyed with churches, pastors and individuals as they discerned how God was leading them to partner with Him in His mission. We thank Andy for his valuable contribution to Global Interaction's ministry through this State Office role and look forward to hearing how God uses him and Cathie among the Khmer.

### Anna Shibu

Anna began at the National Office at the end of last year, balancing the roles of Administration Assistant in the Mobilisation, Partnership and Development team and Finance Officer in the Corporate Services team. She concluded at the end of June to begin in a position much closer to home, but thankfully continued to work with the Corporate Services team casually until the end of August, during the busy end of financial year period. We wish her all the best for the future.

### Zoe Solomon

Zoe commenced as Personal Assistant to the General Director, part-time, in March 2017 and concluded at the end of July this year. Zoe accepted a promotion at the other organisation where she works and her hours have increased as a result. We wish her well in this new role with its increased responsibilities and with her Masters studies.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PASSING

### Rev Dr K Thana Chungnunga



A significant leader of the Baptist Church of Mizoram passed away earlier this year. Rev Dr K Thana Chungnunga faithfully served

as a pastor for five years, the General Secretary of the Baptist Church of Mizoram for eight years, Secretary of the Zoram Mission in Mizoram for another eight years and Principal of the Jubilee Bible School for seven years. Rev Dr K T Chungnunga was also the grandfather of Global Interaction cross-cultural worker, B.



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